HARVEY
Aluminum Sales Inc.

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GENERAL OFFICES — 19200 S. Western Ave., Torrance, California
DISTRICT OFFICE — 1001 Connecticut Avenue, Washington 6, D. C.
Republic 7-4355

REPLY TO DISTRICT OFFICE
20734

January 1, 1963

Manager
WMAL-TV
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

Your fascinating program, "Why Viet Nam", which I have just seen, is a slick rewriting of history that is still being written, an exercise in propaganda or an exposition of ignorance, neither of which is a credit to your, your station, or the discherge of the responsibilities of a free press.

When we saw the listing of this program, we scheduled our day to view it, expecting of both you and the Star an honest statement of the facts and possibly a contribution to knowledge, an indispensible necessity in the functioning of a democratic society. Instead I find a shabby contribution to the continued lack of understanding of what has happened, is happening and can yet eventuate. The possibilities today of error and misinformation are to horrible to consider, yet by disseminating the latter you foster the former. Nowhere in this program is there the reflection of the slighest knowledge or understanding on the part of your news staff if, indeed, they are its authors. Credits were lacking, but this is the impression you gave.

Elections in South Viet Nam? For what, dog catcher? Not for the Diem Government, for Diem was transplanted from the Maryknoll monastery in this country and imposed by Mr. Dulles. And who prevented the elections we pledged our sacred name to in formally and officially committing ourselves to abide by the Geneva agreement? Not the North, for even our experts agree they would have won it, but Dulles and Diem, who proclaimed it.

They were terrorists who bombed the U.S. Embassy in Saigon. There was the footage of the napalming of innocent women and children, or the horrible scarring with white phosphorus, of the deliberate burning of homes of villagers, and of the necessarily indiscriminate terror and slaughter of B-52 bombing? How much less than terrorists are the men who do these things, and the men who order them?

The world is past the point where might alone determines right. That we stand entirely alone today, save for the niggardly and insignificant contributions of our mendicants who have extorted a high price for their belated and limited cooperation. Is this not eloquent enough testimony for us of the opinion of the rest of the world? Right alone can be the answer in disputes between governments, as it is between people. Understanding of what is right is not fostered by such shameful and unabashed propaganda you gave us tonight in the guise of information. Suppose our government has been misled by worng or evil advisers? It has happened. If you haven't read "The 1000 Days", "The Invisible Government", "The C.I.A" and "The Bay of Pigs" you might not be aware of it, but it is an apparently consistent characteristic of modern government. Must we again wait until it is too late to learn the truth? And have you not the obligation to seek it out, untainted by government propaganda, and to disperse it.

Sincerely,

All Agreements are Contingent upon Strikes, Accidents and Other Delays Unavoidable or Beyond Our Control.
Quotations are Subject to Change Without Notice and are Subject to Harvey Standard Terms, Conditions and Mill Standard Tolerances.